

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services James Randolph Farris, M.D. Regional Administrator

1301 Young Street, Room 714 Dallas, Texas 75202 Phone (214) 767-6427 Fax (214) 767-6400

June 20, 2002

Our Reference: WA-LA0257.90.02

Mr. Ben Bearden, Medicaid Director Bureau of Health Services Financing Department of Health and Hospitals 1201 Capitol Access Road P.O. Box 91030 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-9030

Dear Mr. Bearden:

I am responding to your recent correspondence by approving a 90-day temporary extension of your Home and Community-Based Services waiver (HCBSW) No. 0257.90.02. This waiver provides services to elderly and disabled individuals who would otherwise require institutionalization in a nursing facility. The HCBSW No. 0257.90.02 expires on June 25, 2002. This temporary extension is to ensure continued operation of the waiver pending review by our office of the waiver renewal request.

Because a decision regarding renewal of this waiver could not be made before it expires on June 25, 2002, I am granting the State of Louisiana a fifth 90-day temporary extension of HCBSW No. 0257.90.02. This program is approved under the authority of section 1915 (c) of the Social Security Act. The extension allows you to continue waiver services from June 26, 2002 through September 23, 2002 at the per capita cost and utilization levels approved for the fifth year of the current waiver program.

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Rupley of my staff at 214-767-6278.

Sincerely,

James Randolph Farris, M.D. Regional Administrator

cc: Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations